Testimony to Liz Gustafson - NARAL

When I was 17, I decided I wanted to get on birth control. I am a military brat – and as such, we received all our medical care at the "Base". I, not wanting or needing parental consent, made an appointment at Planned Parenthood. My mother and I had a good relationship, so I told her. She wanted to support me, and we went together.

That was in 1978.

In my first year of college, I met a man, and conceived a child. We were both unstable in our lives and relationship, and I decided to get an abortion. He accompanied me, and my elder sister supported me. We went to a Planned Parenthood

This man became my husband, and we now have three kids. We have been married over 30 years.

Between our second and third child, I had emergency gall bladder surgery. The pain came out of nowhere. It was sudden and severe. I had numerous x-rays, medicines, and emergency surgery.

Very shortly afterwards, it was discovered that I was pregnant. I consulted my doctor and called various federal and state authorities to get information on the likelihood that the fetus was negatively affected by the treatments I had from the gall bladder emergency. The consensus from the "experts" was that I should have a D and C (another abortion).

My regular gynecologist would not do "that kind" of surgery. I went to Planned Parenthood

We need Planned Parenthood

We need open and safe access to women's health care – which INCLUDES abortion.

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